

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application and allowance of the claims is respectfully requested.

Claim 1 has been amended by the addition of the subject matter of claim 2, which was stated by the examiner on page 4 to be allowable if rewritten in independent form, including all limitations of the base claim. Accordingly, the new claim 1 is believed to be patentable.

Claims 3 and 4 are dependent upon allowable claim 1. Thus, it is believed that they also are allowable, since they share in the limitations of amended claim 1.

Claim 5 has been amended by the addition of the limitations of claim 10, which was also deemed by the examiner to contain allowable subject matter. Thus, amended claim 5 is believed to be patentable.

Claims 6-9, and 13, are all dependent upon allowable claim 5, and thus are believed to be equally patentable. Claim 9, (and similar claims 17 and 23) have been amended to correct an antecedent basis clerical error.

Claims 10-12 are cancelled.

Claims 14 and 15 are allowed. Accordingly, it is requested that the restricted claims 16-18 be placed back into the application and allowed, since they are all dependent on allowed claim 14 as the base, generic claim. The same is requested for dependent claims 8, 9 and 13 for a similar reason.

Claim 19 is dependent upon allowable claim 5, and thus is believed to be allowable as well.

Claim 20 has been amended by addition of the limitations of claim 25, which latter claim was deemed by the examiner to contain allowable subject matter.

Accordingly, claim 20, as amended, is believed to be allowable.

Furthermore, claims 21-24, plus claims 26 and 27 are all dependent upon claim 20 and thus should be allowed, based on the patentability of amended claim 20. Claims 23-24 were withdrawn from consideration, but it is requested that they be returned to the case and allowed, since they are dependent upon generic claim 20.

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